

XERISCAPE

NATURE'S CHOICE OF LANDSCAPE



Justicia (Desert Honeysuckle)

With long, colorful, tubular flowers, justicias are a hummingbird's delight. Flower colors range from yellow to deep red. Justicias' green foliage contrasts well with gray desert-adapted plants. Native to tropical and sub-tropical regions, they can be used in many types of landscapes. These ever-green shrubs bloom throughout the year, inviting hummingbirds into the urban wildlife garden. If plants are damaged by frost, become leggy, or have reduced flower production, they may be rejuvenated by pruning to the ground after the last frost in early spring. They recover rapidly in warm weather and flourish with infrequent, deep watering.

Justicia californica

Chuparosa

The name chuparosa, Spanish for hummingbird, gives testimony to this shrub's attraction to hummingbirds. Native to the Sonoran Desert, it is wonderfully adapted to xeriscape gardens for color and wildlife. Growing up to 6 feet tall and wide, it can fill a large space. Intense red flowers, or lemon yellow in some forms, are one of its best features, especially during its fall through spring blooming period.

Unlike most semi-evergreens, chuparosa is summer deciduous. It can survive on rainfall alone in natural desert area, but maintains a more evergreen appearance with supplemental water during extended, hot, dry periods.

Justicia candidans

Red Justicia

A native of Arizona and adjacent Mexico, this has been a "wild" plant until recently. Red justicia grows to 3 feet tall and has erect stems rather than a broad spreading growth habit. Bright red flowers appear in clusters at the ends of the branches from spring to fall.

Red justicia prefers protection from afternoon sun, and does well in filtered sun. Unlike chuparosa, red justicia needs regular, weekly watering during the summer. The intense red flowers attract hummingbirds and provide striking contrast with the bright, evergreen heart-shaped leaves. Justicia candidans' lush green appearance makes it ideal for mini-oasis and transitional areas of the landscape.

Justicia spicigera

Mexican Honeysuckle

This favorite is native to arid and subtropical climates in Mexico and other New World countries. Bright orange flowers are presented in clusters above the soft, light green leaves nearly year-round, but especially in the spring and fall.

Mexican honeysuckle can grow to 3 feet tall and 4 feet wide, becoming a mass of orange at peak flowering. It will tolerate heavy soils and almost all light exposures, but severe overwatering can cause chlorosis (yellow leaves with green veins). The lush tropical appearance fits a wide variety of landscapes from rock gardens to oases.